



# Appendix D

## *Equipment*

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### Introduction

In this appendix are descriptions and explanations of the equipment and supplies listed under the **Equipment** section and those mentioned in other sections of the manual. The items are listed alphabetically. **Purchase this equipment as soon as possible.**

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### Collars

Collars for detector dogs should be nylon. They must be black or forest green. See **Figure D-1-1**. Collars that buckle or snap adjust to a fixed size. They are designed not to tighten around a dog's neck if it is on a loose lead, but will tighten if the dog pulls. The primary consideration when selecting a collar for a detector dog is the dog's safety. The collar must fit securely to prevent the dog from escaping from the collar or slipping out of it. It should not fit so tightly as to interfere with the dog's comfort while working. Generally, only one or two fingers should fit in the space between the dog's neck and the collar when the collar is in its normal position.

All slip collars must be removed for the detector dog when it is kenneled, and special care must be taken to remove slip collars whenever the dog is not being directly observed or supervised.

See additional information that follows about martingale, slip, leather, and nylon collars, as well as directions on how to make an emergency Elizabethan collar.



**FIGURE D-1-1: Collars Worn by Detector Dogs**

### **Elizabethan Collar**

An Elizabethan collar is used to prevent a dog from licking or chewing itself, or pawing at and rubbing its face after an injury before you can get it to the veterinarian. See [Figure D-1-2](#). You can make an emergency Elizabethan collar by cutting the bottom out of a plastic planting pot. It should be large enough to just slip over the dog's head. Cut four holes in the pot and slip a strip of gauze through each hole. Secure the emergency Elizabethan collar to the dog's collar, using the gauze strips and tape. If the dog is not wearing a collar, create a makeshift collar with a piece of gauze tied loosely around the neck.



**FIGURE D-1-2: Emergency Elizabethan Collar Made from a Plastic Planting Pot**

### **Martingale Collar**

A Martingale collar is a fixed or modified slip collar. It will stop constricting at a point that you adjust. The tightest point should be somewhat smaller than the broadest part of the dog's head to prevent escape. The collar fits loosely. It may fit more than two fingers between the neck and collar, but not loosely enough to hang slackly over the dog's chest or allow the head to be pulled out of it (see [Figure D-1-3](#)). Martingales may be used during passenger clearance.



**FIGURE D-1-3: Martingale Collar**

### Regular Nylon Collar

Nylon collars must be black, forest green, or brown. Inspect nylon collars for excessive fraying. Check the plastic snaps for splits, cracks, or breaks. To clean nylon collars, rinse them in soapy water or wash them in a washing machine (see [Figure D-1-4](#)).



**FIGURE D-1-4: Regular Nylon Collar**

### Slip Collar

A slip collar is designed to tighten around the neck of the dog when tension is applied on the leash. Slip collars can be metal chain, leather, or nylon (see [Figure D-1-5](#)). Never use slip collars during passenger clearance.



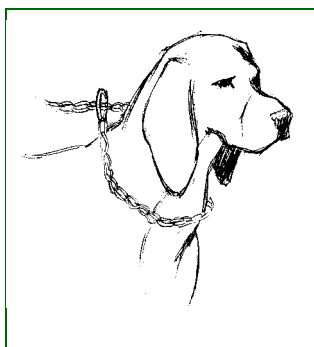
Only use these collars during training exercises. **Never use a slip collar during passenger clearance.**



**FIGURE D-1-5: Slip Collar**

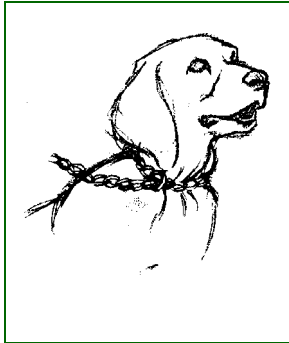
### How to Place a Slip Collar on a Dog

1. Put your leash clip on the top ring. Hold the slip collar in a vertical position, and drop the chain through the bottom ring.
2. With your dog in front of you, slip the collar over the dog's head. The ring with the leash clip should be the ring that moves. To check it, gently pull the lead and release. The collar should tighten and immediately loosen (see [Figure D-1-6](#)).



**FIGURE D-1-6: Correct Way to Place a Slip Collar**

3. If the lead does not loosen, it is on upside down. Take the collar off and turn it over (see [Figure D-1-7](#)).



**FIGURE D-1-7: Incorrect Way to Place a Slip Collar**

### Leather Collar

Give regular care to the metal buckle and “D” ring on the collar to avoid rust along the edges and where metal joins the leather. Also, apply a leather conditioner or saddle soap to the outside of the collar.

### Harnesses

Harnesses are another approved form of restraint for special purposes. You **must get approval** from your RCPC before purchasing a harness.

For an example of a harness, see [Figure D-1-8](#) and [Figure D-1-9](#).



**FIGURE D-1-8: Harness**



**FIGURE D-1-9: Harness Placement**



Get approval from your RCPC before purchasing a leather collar or harness.

## Crates/Portable Kennels

There are two types of enclosures used to house a detector dog while working, and they are considered a detector dog's secondary residence. One is a wire crate, and the other is a portable kennel. See [Figure D-1-10](#) and [Figure D-1-11](#). Wire crates are recommended for transporting detector dogs in vehicles, allowing for greater air circulation. Portable kennels are used to ship detector dogs. Wire crates or portable kennels can be used to house detector dogs between flights.

The approximate size of a crate or portable kennel must be large enough for the dog to comfortably stand up, lie down, and turn around. Crates and portable kennels must have a solid floor. See the definition of secondary residence in the [Glossary](#).



Never use a portable kennel if the structural integrity of the kennel has been compromised in any way.



**FIGURE D-1-10: Wire Crates Used for Detector Dogs**





**FIGURE D-1-11: Portable Kennels Used for Detector Dogs**

### **Crate Pads**

Detector dogs need crate pads to reduce injuries. Padding in the crate keeps the dog comfortable, prevents elbow calluses, and helps the dog regulate its temperature. Crate pads may be made of “sheepskin,” plush, or smooth fabric, may be covered foam mattresses, or constructed of any other sanitary and washable material. Always inspect crate pads for signs of chewing, as ingestion of padding material can be unhealthy for the dog (i.e., in some cases, can create intestinal obstruction).



Some dogs chew their crate pads. Be observant and if your dog chews its pad, give the dog chew toys. If that does not work, remove the crate pad.

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## **First Aid Kit**

Canine officers are responsible for maintaining a fully-stocked first aid kit and ensuring it is accessible for first aid and emergency care of their detector dogs. Contact your local approved veterinarian to replace used or expired items. New Canine Officers receive a first aid kit during BCOT at NDDTC. Following is a list of items in the first aid kit (see **Figure D-1-12**).

- ◆ Adhesive tape (coflex)
- ◆ Alcohol prep pads
- ◆ Antibiotic ointment
- ◆ Cold pack



- ◆ Cotton balls, rolls, swabs
- ◆ Eye wash
- ◆ Gauze bandage rolls
- ◆ Gauze pads, sterile non-stick
- ◆ Gloves
- ◆ Iodine prep solution
- ◆ Magnifying glass
- ◆ Providone—Iodine ointment
- ◆ Scissors, blunt-tipped
- ◆ Thermometer
- ◆ Tweezers
- ◆ Blanket (not in the kit)
- ◆ Muzzle (not in the kit)
- ◆ Soft, nylon rope for emergency leash (not in the kit)

Items that are not in the kit but are useful to stock:

- ◆ Blanket
- ◆ Muzzle
- ◆ Soft nylon rope for emergency leash



**FIGURE D-1-12: First Aid Kit Supplied by NDDTC**

## Trauma kit

Each port location should have access to a trauma kit. Items include the following (see **Figure D-1-13**):

- ◆ Adhesive tape 1"x2.5 Yds.
- ◆ Adhesive tape 1"x5 Yds.
- ◆ Alcohol wipes
- ◆ Ammonia inhalant
- ◆ Aspirin, buffered 2 Pks.
- ◆ Benadryl 25 mg Tabs 2 Pks.
- ◆ Benzalkonium chloride wipes
- ◆ Case, nylon
- ◆ Cast padding 3"x 4Yds.
- ◆ Co-Flex 2"
- ◆ Co-Flex 4"
- ◆ Cold pack 5x6
- ◆ Combine dressing 8x 7.5 Yds.
- ◆ Combine pad 5 x 9 Yds.
- ◆ Cotton applicators, non-sterile 3"
- ◆ Cotton applicators, sterile 6" 2 Pks.
- ◆ Elastic bandage 3" No Latex
- ◆ Emergency care and CPR card
- ◆ EMT gel
- ◆ Eye and skin wash 4 oz.
- ◆ Forceps
- ◆ Gauze pad 2" x 2"
- ◆ Gauze pad 3" x 3"
- ◆ Gauze pad 4" x 4"
- ◆ Gauze roll 2" x 4Yds.
- ◆ Gauze roll 4" x 4 Yds.
- ◆ Gauze trauma pad 5" x 9"
- ◆ Gloves, vinyl
- ◆ Green soap towlettes
- ◆ Handwipe

- ◆ Hydrocortisone cream 1gm
- ◆ Insect sting swabs
- ◆ Loperamide caplettes
- ◆ Non-adhering pad 2"x 3"
- ◆ Non-adhering pad 3" x 4"
- ◆ P.A.W.S Wipe and Dry
- ◆ Peroxide
- ◆ Petrolatum white jelly
- ◆ Petscope
- ◆ Pill gun
- ◆ Plastic tweezers 4"
- ◆ PVP iodine 1 fl oz.
- ◆ PVP iodine swabs
- ◆ Razor
- ◆ Scalpel
- ◆ Scissors, paramedic
- ◆ Scissors, small
- ◆ Skin stapler
- ◆ Space blanket
- ◆ Stethoscope
- ◆ Stockinette 3' wide
- ◆ Syptic powder
- ◆ Syringe, 60cc irrigation
- ◆ Syringe bulb
- ◆ Thermometer
- ◆ Tick remover
- ◆ Tongue depressors
- ◆ Tourniquet, powder free, latex free
- ◆ Triple antibiotic, 1 gm



**FIGURE D-1-13: Trauma Kit**

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## Grooming Kit

Each grooming kit contains a brush, comb, nail clippers, and other similar items used to remove shedding hair and to maintain nails. Which tools to use will depend on each dog's type of hair and skin (see [Figure D-1-14](#)). Also needed are an ear cleaner, shampoo, and styptic powder.

Some dogs will have specific needs that may require different grooming supplies. Consult with your RCPC for more information.



**FIGURE D-1-14: A Variety of Grooming Tools**

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## Weight Scale

Each work unit should have access to a scale (either at the kennel or work location) to help maintain the detector dog's optimum weight.

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## Jackets

The detector dog's uniform is an official, green jacket that must be worn when working passenger clearance and when present at an official event. Jackets are issued at NDDTC during BCOT. If additional jackets are needed, contact your RCPC.



Wash and maintain the jacket, collar, and bedding at least once a month.

Each detector dog should have a jacket to be used only for media presentations. The jacket should **not** have the reflective strip on it.

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## Leashes (Regular and Retractable)

A regular leash is used while working a detector dog, and a retractable leash may be used to exercise a detector dog. The detector dog should be on a leash when it is not kenneled or in a crate (see [Figure D-1-15](#)).

A regular leash may be nylon, cotton, or leather. Leashes must be black, forest green, or brown. Their length should not exceed 6'.



Never use a retractable lead while working the dog.

Inspect the metal snap on a leash daily, because the spring in the snap can become faulty. Strain will cause the curved portion of the snap to pull out of shape. Keep the snap free of rust. Inspect the leash for cuts, wear, and tear daily, and oil it frequently.

To condition leather, use saddle soap or a leather conditioner. Take care when conditioning leather. Excessive leather conditioner or saddle soap can cause the leash to stretch until it becomes unsafe. To clean nylon or cotton leashes, rinse them in soapy water or wash them in a washing machine.

A retractable leash may be used to exercise a detector dog in uncrowded areas. This allows the dog to run and exercise while secured by a leash.



Hold on to the leash at all times. When exercising the dog, never drop the retractable lead because it will fly back and hit the dog.



**FIGURE D-1-15: Leashes (Regular and Retractable)**

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## Refrigerators

A refrigerator is required to store target and nontarget items used for training. It is recommended that there be 2 refrigerators—1 to store target items, and the other to store nontarget items.

Additionally, air-tight containers are required to store items in the refrigerators. Mark the containers, and only store items in each container as marked. For example, store citrus in one container, apples in another, cheeses in another, breads in another, etc.

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## Reward Pouch

A reward pouch is required to store treats or food rewards for a detector dog. Reward pouches are supplied by NDDTC during BCOT. Canine Officers wear the reward pouches on their belts.

If a pouch needs to be replaced, contact your RCPC. Note that fanny packs work well. They must be black and plain with no fancy stitching or color, and can be leather, nylon, or vinyl (see **Figure D-1-16**).



**FIGURE D-1-16: Reward Pouch**

## Suitcases, Boxes, and Contents

A supply of hard suitcases, soft suitcases, handbags, and boxes, along with clothes, shoes, and target and nontarget items to fill them are required for proficiency training. Suitcases, handbags, and boxes used to hold target items and those used to hold nontarget items need to be stored separately. Clothes and other items are needed to fill the suitcases.

Suitcases and handbags—minimum of 50 hard and soft cases in a variety of sizes; including 50 percent handbags, backpacks, purses; excluding target cases (see **Appendix D** under **Suitcases, Boxes, and Contents** for more information). Additionally, maintain 25 boxes.



**Important**

Be aware of any second-hand suitcases, bags, and boxes you may procure from thrift shops, etc. These secondhand items may have a residual odor because of what they were used for in the past, such as holding food. If you do not know the origin of a suitcase, bag, or box and the dog continues to respond to it, then throw it away.



**Important**

Canine officers are recreating passenger baggage for training scenarios. Therefore, the suitcases and handbags should be filled with anything encountered on the passenger clearance floor.



Maintaining this supply ensures the highest level of stimulation when training detector dogs, which in turn helps to maintain a high level of proficiency.

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## Vehicles

Safe vehicles (passenger vans are ideal) and equipment are required to transport detector dogs. Local management is responsible for ensuring that a Canine Officer adheres to the safety requirements of a vehicle. Vehicle maintenance must be performed according to GSA and APHIS standards. Following are the safety requirements of vehicles and equipment used to transport detector dogs. The list is periodically reviewed and approved by the APHIS National Safety and Health Committee.

- ◆ Properly working air conditioner and heater, as dictated by climate. Air conditioners and heaters are mandatory. Rear air conditioning is highly recommended, and may be mandatory in some climates to maintain the appropriate temperature for transporting the dog. **Do not use a vehicle without air conditioning to transport a dog if the temperature is above 85°F.** Before placing a detector dog in a vehicle, allow the vehicle to cool down (or warm up).
- ◆ Tinted windows that are fully functional. Tinted windows reduce solar convection.
- ◆ Alternative power source such as a battery to operate equipment, such as phones or fans.
- ◆ Wire crate to house the dog in a vehicle.
- ◆ First aid kit for dogs and humans. Kits are supplied by NDDTC to new canine officers. The RCPCs maintain the kits by routinely monitoring supplies and replacing expired and used items. See [\*\*First Aid Kit\*\*](#) for a list of included items.
- ◆ Fire extinguisher
- ◆ Communication device for emergency use, as dictated by the region or work location depending on the local circumstances and distances between the kennel and work sites (cellular phone, etc.).
- ◆ Emergency kit, including reflective triangles